

Application No. 09/672330
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Amendment

In the Specification:

Amend the paragraph on page 1, lines 22-30 as follows:

A¹
Polymer balloons for medical devices are conventionally made by radially expanding a tubular parison of a polymer material at a temperature above the glass transition temperature (Tg) of the material. (In the present application "the glass transition temperature" when referring to a material which has more than one glass transition refers to the highest glass transition temperature displayed by the material). Sometimes the tubular parison is simply an extruded tube. However, frequently the extruded tube is axially stretched prior to being radially expanded. Axial stretching may be undertaken at ambient or at a temperature above ambient temperature. See US 4790421 ~~4490421~~ to Levy.

[Amend the paragraph on page 2, lines 4-12 as follows:]

A²
In WO 99/44649, corresponding to ~~expending~~ ~~US application 09/034431~~ US 6465067, both of which are incorporated here by ~~reference~~ reference, there is described a process for blowing balloons of a material having a high crystallization rate from an extruded tubing segment. The process involves stretching the tubing in a manner which produces a propagating necking of at least a portion of the tubing segment while simultaneously subjecting the tubing to an internal pressure above ambient and then radially expanding the necked portion of the tubing at a temperature above the Tg of the material. It has been observed that in the practice of this process, the necking step reduces both the exterior diameter and the interior diameter of the tubing segment.